1	2	3	4	5
11.	Andaman and Nicoabar Islands	86.6	87.5	87.5
12.	Lakshadweep	27.7	28.0	28.3
13.	Pondicherry	29.6	30.9	31.2
	All India	12717.3	12535.9	12251.6

Mite disease of coconut in Karnataka

646.SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any scientific efforts to check/contain the spread of mite disease through tapping of Neera from the coconut trees;

(b) whether Government are aware that the coconut farmers are demanding and making agitations in Karnataka seeking permission to tap the coconut trees; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Karnataka Government has approached the Central Government for scientific assistance in this regard; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) No Scientific effort to check/contain the spread of eriophyid mite through tapping of Neera from coconut trees have been made by CPCRI because it is not a recommended practice of controlling the mite.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The request for research for control of coconut mite was raised in various fora by the representatives of the Government of Karnataka. Therefore, under NATP a research scheme on "Development of Integrated Pest Management Package for Eriophyid mite (Aceria geurreronis Keifer) of coconut in Southern States" at a total cost of Rs. 141.95 lakhs for 3 years is operational at 5 research centres. Out of the five, two centres are in Karnataka *viz*. University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore and Project Directorate on Biological Control, Bangalore.

Strengthening marketing facilities of Agricultural Product

†647. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the funds required for strengthening the marketing facilities of agricultural products and for

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

comprehensive improvements in the necessary infrastructure in the country;

(b) if so, the present requirement of funds separately for development of different areas of infrastructure;

(c) whether Government have prepared any scheme for making necessary funds available; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) An Expert Committee on Strengthening and Developing of Agricultural Marketing appointed by this Ministry has in its report, estimated investment of Rs. 268742.00 crores during the next ten years for improvement of Agricultural Marketing infrastructure in the country. The details of funds required for different areas of infrastructure development are given in the enclosed Statement. (*See* below)

(c) and (d) An Inter-Ministerial Task Force has been constituted in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation to examine the recommendations and suggest measures for the implementation of the recommendations of the Expert Committee. The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have also been requested to examine the recommendations of the Expert Committee and provide their feedback to the Task Force on the implementation of the recommendations.

Statement

Details of Infrastructure Development in Agricultural Marketing

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Infrastructure Items	Investment required
1.	Rural Roads	74000
2.	Market Yard Development	6026
3.	Development of Fruit and Vegetable Markets	970
4.	Rural Periodic Markets	2146
5.	Storage	5400
6.	Cold Storages	27000
7.	Reefer Vans	600
8.	Cleaning and Grading	2000
9.	Export Oriented Agri-Zones (EOAZs)	600
10.	Value Addition and Processing	150000
	TOTAL:	268742